

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A fabric processing method comprising:
an embroidering step for embroidering fabric by
5 means of an embroidering device, using thermoplastic
embroidery thread, on the basis of image data; and
a heat treatment step for heating said fabric in
such a manner that the texture of the embroidery thread
embroidered onto said fabric in said embroidering step
10 after returning to normal temperature is different from
that prior to heating.
2. The fabric processing method according to claim
1, wherein pressure is applied to said fabric while heating,
15 in said heat treatment step.
3. The fabric processing method according to claim
1, wherein said thermoplastic embroidery thread has a lower
melting point than the fabric.
- 20 4. The fabric processing method according to claim
1, wherein said image data comprises embroidery image data
and print image data.

5. The fabric processing method according to claim 1, further comprising an image data creating step for creating said image data on a computer.

5 6. The fabric processing method according to claim 1, further comprising, between said embroidering step and said heat treatment step, a printing step for printing an image onto a region of said fabric where embroidery has been performed, by ejecting ink onto said fabric by means
10 of an ink-jet printer, on the basis of image data.